

12 Division

Community Bulletin—May 1st–31st - 2008



MESSAGE FROM SUPT. BRODY SMOLLET UNIT COMMANDER OF 12 DIVISION

In recent weeks we have once again been reminded of the havoc being played out in our communities through gun violence. In the last couple of days alone there have been a number of shootings and murders in Toronto where firearms were used.

In 12 Division, officers have seized 5 loaded handguns from suspects in the past two and a half weeks. Fortunately no officers were seriously injured during these arrests and we able to take these weapons out of the hands of local criminals.

The seizure of these weapons has led us to develop and implement a TAVIS strategy that will target known gang members and the locations where they congregate. This effort is designed to suppress criminal activity, particularly gang related activity, and to provide a visible police presence in our community.

Members of the public are encouraged to assist us in our efforts by reporting criminal activity directly to us or through the use of Crime Stoppers (1-800-222-TIPS). Activities undertaken by the police are enhanced by such participation and we must all remember that it is incumbent upon every citizen to assist in making our communities as safe as they can possibly be.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that our annual Community Day will take place here at 12 Division on Sunday June 8, 2008 between 1PM and 4PM. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the day.

I am looking forward to the new challenges I face and to working with our community partners. If you need to speak to me, I can be reached at 416-808-1213.

Remember, your neighbourhood is our neighbourhood!

12 Division

Community Bulletin—May 1st–31st - 2008



In an effort to better acquaint members of the public as to how 12 Division operates, we will be highlighting various functions within the division and providing an overview of the position and the duties and responsibilities involved. This month the position that we will highlight is that of the **Youth Bureau**.

Youth Bureau Detective:

Detective Paul Drury Phone: 416-808-1250

I'd like to introduce myself as 12 Division's Youth Bureau Detective. I have been a member of the Toronto Police Service for 25 years and was promoted to Detective 7 years ago. The majority of my background is in the investigative fields. My present position is to oversee the Youth Bureau, Fraud and Warrant Investigators.

12 Division Youth Bureau is responsible for all investigations of child abuse, sexual assaults and missing young persons. These types of investigations involve ongoing interaction with all of the School Boards and Children's Aid Societies. The Unit has access to numerous referral groups to assist with investigations and the care of all children with whom we have contact. Many of the abuse investigations are historic in nature.

The Unit is also responsible for investigating young persons between the ages of 12-17 years and enforcing the Youth Criminal Justice Act. The investigators work with prosecutors in attempts to develop strategies that leave a positive impact on the young persons.

12 Division Youth Bureau consists of two teams of two officers who work dayshift and afternoon shift throughout the entire week. The 12 Division Criminal Investigation Bureau acts as a back up Unit for investigations that occur after hours. The phone number to the Youth Bureau is 416-808-1205.



COMMUNITY BASED ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT:

Our officers are very involved in our neighbourhoods. Here are a few of the activities in which they have participated during the four weeks. CRU officers have issued 261 Provincial Offences Tickets, arrested 26 people, and investigated approximately 333 others. Most recently they attended several addresses with local Liquor Inspectors and they have laid 22 charges covering liquor offences against the people operating the respective premises. They have also attended 11 public meetings or community events, 18 school visits; and have paid special attention to specific areas involving 79 activity checks where there have been community complaints.

Since the beginning of the year, CRU officers have issued 1267 Highway Traffic Act tickets and investigated approximately 1456 people for varying reasons with 134 people being arrested. The CRU will also continue to pay special attention to licenced premises, after-hours clubs, and booze cans within 12 Division. Their efforts since the beginning of the year have resulted in 83 Liquor Licence Act charges being laid. In other areas of concern, they arrested 3 people for prostitution activities, made 57 drug arrests, and investigated & arrested 7 people for robbery. So far this year, there have been 15 charges laid in relation to weapons offences.

COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER COMMENTS:

Remember if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Break-ins to automobiles are a constant problem in 12 Division and are usually something that is often referred to as 'a crime of opportunity' meaning that thieves take advantage of people who leave valuables in their vehicles in plain sight. While this mainly occurs around Christmas time, it is indeed a year round problem for everyone. Please think of the following suggestions when you park your car:

- Either remove any valuables from your vehicle or at least lock them in your trunk out of sight.

12 Division

Community Bulletin—May 1st–31st - 2008



- Park your vehicle in a well lit area where there is regular pedestrian traffic.
- Roll up all your windows and lock your doors when exiting your vehicle.
- If you have a garage, lock your garage doors as well as your cars.

An ounce of prevention is usually worth more than a pound of cure.

12 DIVISION ARRESTS OF THE MONTH:

1: Two Men and a Woman Arrested on Weapons Charges by MCU Officers After a Search Warrant is Executed on Their Home

It is alleged that: on May 15th, officers attended a Grace Street address armed with a search warrant at which time they recovered a hand gun concealed in a washroom located there. All three persons were arrested and taken to 12 Division where they were charged with the possession of the weapon and held in custody pending a mandatory bail hearing.

**Arrested: Sandra TIMME, 29 years of Grace Street
Lawrence J. PARK, 33 years of Grace Street
Chase A. CARHARTE, 37 years of Grace Street**

**Charges: Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm x 3
Poss. of a Firearm Knowing its Poss. is Unauthorized x 3
Poss. of a Firearm Obtained by Crime x 3
Poss. a Firearm Knowing Its Serial Number Defaced x 3
Careless Storage of a Firearm x 3
Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm x 3
Unauthorized Possession of a Prohibited Device x 3
Possession of a Prohibited Weapon x 3
Weapons Dangerous x 3**



2: Male Armed with Handgun Arrested After He is Stopped by Police for an HTA Offence & Then Assaults Officer in Attempt to Escape

It is alleged that: on May 13th, officers stopped the accused after he made an illegal turn in the area of King Georges Drive. The accused immediately got out of the car and was approached by the officers at which time the accused, without warning, pushed the officer closest to him and ran off. A brief foot pursuit ensued and the accused was caught and arrested at which time a loaded 9 mm handgun was located on his person. He was taken to the station where he was investigated further and found to be out of jail on probation. He was charged accordingly and held in custody pending a mandatory bail hearing.

Arrested: Marvin BLACKWOOD, 25 years of Toronto

Charges: Assault Police x 2
Assault with Intent to Resist Arrest x 2
Possession of a Restricted Weapon with Ammunition
Unauthorized Presence of a Firearm in a Motor Vehicle
Possession of a Firearm Knowing its Poss. Prohibited
Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm
Poss. of a Firearm Contrary to Prohibition Order
Fail to Comply - Probation

3: Male Arrested for Murder After He Stabs Room Mate at Keele Street Rooming House Who Later Dies in Hospital from the Stab Wounds

It is alleged that: on May 1st, the accused became involved in a heated argument with a fellow room mate of a Keele Street rooming house where they both resided. The accused at some point became so agitated that he picked up a 12" kitchen knife and stabbed the victim. The police received a 911 call to the address and paramedics attended as well who transported the victim to the hospital as police arrived. The accused then barricaded himself inside the house and refused to come out which resulted in ETF officers attending. They managed to extricate the accused without further

12 Division

Community Bulletin—May 1st–31st - 2008



incident. He was transported to 12 Division where he was investigated and charged accordingly then held in custody pending a mandatory bail hearing.

Arrested: Harry M. CROMBIE, 47 years of Keele Street

Charge: Murder

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES:

Divisional Traffic Sergeant:

Sgt. Michael Mersereau #3942

Phone: 416 808-1224

Traffic enforcement and safety is a priority of our Service and one of the core functions of all police officers. If you have a driving complaint that you would like to report, you can contact my office or attend at the station to have a report submitted. I will attempt to ensure that each complaint is addressed and appropriate action is delivered.

May is Motorcycle Awareness Month

In many municipalities throughout North America, May was Motorcycle Awareness month to highlight the need for motorists to share the road safely and to urge all motor vehicle drivers to be on the look out for motorcycles while also reminding motorcyclists to ride responsibly. This is indeed the case here in Toronto as well where motorcycles and also cyclist traffic increases with the warmer weather.

Motorists often don't think to look for motorcycles or bicycles on the road. In fact, the most common type of collision occurs when a driver pulls out from an intersection directly in front of a motorcyclist. They usually say they never saw the bike. That's why it's key for all motorists to be on the lookout for motorcycles and bicycles and to respect their right to be there.



Driving Tips:

- **Share the road with motorcycles – in almost half of all motorcycle collisions, the motorist is at fault, not the motorcyclist.**
 - Motorcycles use a full lane; treat them like other vehicles when driving.
 - A safe following distance is at least two seconds behind the vehicle in front of you. This lets you see around the vehicle ahead and gives you enough distance to stop suddenly.
 - Many motorcycle collisions occur between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m., so take extra caution at these times.

- **Watch for motorcycles at intersections – over one third of motorcycle collisions are intersection-related.**
 - Be sure that it is safe to proceed before doing so by checking your mirrors and around your car.
 - Slow down as you come to intersection and look carefully for traffic, yield signs, stop signs, traffic lights, cyclists and pedestrians.
 - Be extra cautious when turning left in front of a motorcycle. It's difficult to judge their speed and their turn signal may be accidentally left on as they don't automatically shut off.

- **Watch for clues**
 - Motorcycle turn signals can be hard to see.
 - Watch for signs, such as shoulder checking or leaning that indicates the rider is going to turn or change lanes.



- **Carefully assess an oncoming motorcycle's speed**
 - A motorcycle is more difficult to see than other vehicles as its profile is smaller from most angles.
 - A motorcycle's speed and distance can easily be misjudged by drivers.
 - Make sure you don't pull out in front of, or cut off a motorcycle.

- **Be courteous**
 - Respect motorcyclists - they are just as entitled to use the road as you are.
 - Speed and other aggressive tactics such as tailgating can potentially be more dangerous to the motorcyclist, who has less protection on their smaller, open vehicle.
 - Give other drivers space to change lanes, avoid cutting them off, and signal your turns and lane changes properly.

- **Be aware of motorcycles (and other vehicles) around your car**
 - Check your mirrors frequently so you are aware of the other vehicles around you and how close they are.
 - Remember to check your blind spot, especially before changing lanes. A motorcycle is small enough to be entirely hidden within your blind spot.

Traffic Enforcement Activities in 12 Division:

During the month of May, our officers were involved in the CANADA ROAD SAFETY Campaign which is coordinated effort between police agencies across the country aims to achieve the goal of Road Safety Vision 2010 - making Canada's roads the safest in the world. The goal of this campaign is

12 Division

Community Bulletin—May 1st–31st - 2008



to increase the awareness to traffic laws, including Drinking Drivers, excessive speeding, aggressive driving and pedestrian offences in a hope of changing people's driving behaviour by applying education, awareness and enforcement.

As a 'kick-off' to the Canada Road Safety week campaign, on May 13th, our officers and the Ministry of Transportation conducted a Commercial Vehicle Safety Inspection on Todd Baylis Boulevard and Industry Street. Twenty-six Commercial vehicles, including Buses, Dump Trucks, Cube Vans, were inspected which resulted in 10 vehicles being taken out-of-service for various safety violations. We plan to continue these inspections on an ongoing basis to ensure the safety of all users of our roadways.

On May 17th, our officers also conducted an Infant Safety Seat Inspection and Bicycle Awareness clinic at the Walmart on 2525 St. Clair Avenue West. Several Infant Seat installations were inspected by our officers. Information was also conveyed on safe cycling and the rules of the road for bicycles as well.

Drinking and Driving continues to be a problem as with several individuals arrested for Impaired Driving and Over 80 milligrams offences:

- On Friday May 2nd, 2008 at approximately 1:57 am, the accused was driving in an aggressive manner at a high rate of speed on St Clair Avenue West, changing lanes numerous times. The officers were able to stop and arrest the driver for Impaired Driving who subsequently failed the breath test.
- On Sunday, May 4th, 2008 at approximately 2:00 am, a vehicle was travelling westbound on Lambton Ave when it crossed the street into the oncoming lane, mount the south-side sidewalk, proceed through a wooden fence, through the front garden and bushes and into a tree. The driver was arrested for Impaired Driving and Blood Alcohol readings of 203 milligrams and 196 milligrams were obtained.

12 Division

Community Bulletin—May 1st–31st - 2008



- On Saturday May 17th at approximately 3:39 am, a Honda was observed at a high rate of speed near Trethewey Drive and Yore Road. A 'Road Side Screening Device' was administered. As a result, the driver was arrested for Drive over 80 milligrams and Blood Alcohol readings of 92 milligrams and 94 milligrams were later obtained.
- On a final note, on Saturday May 10th, around 8:15 p.m., a serious Personal injury collision occurred near 88 Industry Street where two elderly pedestrians were struck by a motor vehicle reversing from a driveway. This collision is still under investigation and witnesses with any information are asked to please contact Traffic Services at 416 808-1900.

Remember: always be aware of your surroundings when you are driving.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR:

Here is a list of community-based activities for the month of June that officers from 12 Division will attend. If you would like a Toronto Police Service representative from 12 Division to attend your community event, please contact 12 Division at 416-808-1200 and ask for the Community Response Staff Sergeant.

June

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 12 Division Community Day in our parking lot at the rear of the station. 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm	9	10 Weston PCP Safety Audit Weston Rd & Lawrence West 7:00 PM	11	12	13	14 Police Community Partnership Community BBQ @ S.A.D.R.A. Park 1.00 to 4.00pm
15	16	17 City-Wide Neighbours Nite Out Event @ Mt. Dennis United Church 71 Guestville Ave. 5-8.00pm and other locations in the Division.	18	19 Neighbours Night Out: Cannes Circle (St Clair & Keele) 7-9 pm	20	21 FYI and Mt Dennis Youth Assn. Summer Slam Jam Coronation Park 1 – 8 pm
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					